## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

- (currently amended) A system comprising:

   a user interface adapted configured to collect data from a user;
   business logic configured to process data collected by the user interface; and
   an intermediate layer interposed between the user interface and the business logic and
   configured to rearrange data collected by the user interface into a format that is optimized for
   processing by the business logic, wherein the user interface is further configured to present
   processed data to the user.
- 2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the system is <u>configured</u> adapted to conduct a data flow between the user interface and the business logic through the intermediate layer.
- 3. (original) The system of claim 2 wherein the data flow is initiated by one or more actions of the user interface, wherein the one or more actions comprise any one of an opening of a user interface and an entering of data in the user interface.
- 4. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the intermediate layer is further configured adapted to optimize the arrangement of data for the business logic, wherein the rearrangement of data collected by the user interface comprises data collection from the user interface and translating the collected data for the business logic.
- 5. (original) The system of claim 1 wherein the intermediate layer is configured to provide a buffering of data flow between the user interface and the business logic, wherein the buffering of data flow enables the system to perform batch processing of a plurality of business processes.

Attorney's Docket No.: 16104-009001 / 2003P00802 US

6. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the business logic comprises a general business logic layer for common business functions and applications, wherein the intermediate layer is further <u>configured</u> adapted to format the data for use in the general business logic layer.

- 7. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the intermediate layer is <u>configured</u> adapted to perform one or more operations on one or more objects to reduce an amount of business processes performed by the business logic, wherein the one or more operations on the one or more objects comprise collecting and formatting one or more classes of objects.
- 8. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising an object model controller to associate the data from the user interface with an object, wherein the intermediate layer is configured adapted to receive the object from the object model controller.
- 9. (currently amended) The system of claim 8 wherein the object model controller is configured adapted to send data requests to the intermediate layer, wherein the data requests comprise any one of a read data request, a modify data request, and an insert data request, and wherein the object model controller further comprises an object-oriented interface.
- 10. (currently amended) The system of claim 1 further comprising a database <u>configured</u> adapted to receive data from the business logic and send data to the business logic, and wherein the system is <u>configured</u> adapted to send business logic data to the user interface through the intermediate layer.
- 11. (currently amended) A method comprising:
  receiving data in a user interface;
  passing the data from the user interface to an intermediate layer, the intermediate layer being configured adapted to interact with the user interface and a layer of business logic;
  performing one or more operations on the data passed to the intermediate layer; and

sending [any] one or both of data and instructions from the intermediate layer to the layer of business logic;

processing one or both of the data and instructions in the layer of business logic; and sending one or both of processed data and processed instructions from the layer of business logic to the user interface.

- 12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11-further comprising:

  processing any one of the data and instructions in the layer of business logic; and
  sending any one of processed data and processed instructions from the layer of business
  logic to the user interface, wherein the sending of any one of processed data and processed
  instructions comprises passing the any one of processed data and processed instructions through
  the intermediate layer.
- 13. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising associating an object with the data received in the user interface, wherein the intermediate layer is further adapted to perform one or more operations on the object.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein an object model controller associates an object with the data received from the user interface, wherein the object model controller is configured to allow a user to prevent other users from modifying data until a save data instruction is received in the user interface.
- 15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the intermediate layer is <u>configured</u> adapted to perform the following operations: receiving an instruction from the object model controller; performing one or more operations relating to the received instruction; and issuing one or more instructions to the layer of business logic.
- 16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the intermediate layer determines whether the received instruction from the object model controller comprises any one of a known object, an unknown object, or a modification of a known object.

- 17. (currently amended) The method of claim 16 wherein, in response to the received instruction from the object model controller, the intermediate layer is further <u>configured</u> adapted to perform any of the following operations: instructing the layer of business logic to approve previous instructions and data entries; instructing the layer of business logic to save data in a database; and initializing a framework to enable a user to perform data entry.
- 18. (original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
  sending the data from the layer of business logic to a database; and
  saving the data in the database upon receiving the data from the layer of business logic.
- 19. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the intermediate layer is <u>configured</u> adapted to optimize one or more processes in the layer of business logic, and wherein the intermediate layer enables batch processing of data entered in the user interface.
- 20. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein the intermediate layer maintains data entries and modifications among various object classes, and wherein the layer of business logic comprises common business functions and applications.
- 21. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein a data flow between the user interface and the layer of business logic is initiated by one or more actions of the user interface, wherein the one or more actions of the user interface comprise any one of an opening of the user interface and a data entry in the user interface.
- 22. (currently amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium storing instructions operable to cause a machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving data in a user interface;

passing the data from the user interface to an intermediate layer, the intermediate layer being <u>configured</u> adapted to interact with the user interface and a layer of business logic; performing one or more operations on the data passed to the intermediate layer;

sending any one of data and instructions from the intermediate layer to the layer of business logic;

processing any one of the data and instructions in the layer of business logic; and sending any one of processed data and processed instructions from the layer of business logic to the user interface, wherein the sending of any one of processed data and processed instructions comprises passing the any one of processed data and processed instructions through the intermediate layer.

## 23. (currently amended) A system comprising:

a network of computers, wherein the network of computers comprises a database and at least one user interface;

a plurality of business logic <u>configured</u> adapted to perform a plurality of business functions and applications, wherein the plurality of business logic is further <u>configured</u> adapted to process data entered in the at least one user interface, and wherein the plurality of business logic interacts with the database; and

an intermediate layer interacting with the at least one user interface and the plurality of business logic, wherein the intermediate layer is <u>configured adapted</u> to format and rearrange data entered in the user interface to optimize the processing of data in the plurality of business logic, and wherein a data flow between the at least one user interface and the plurality of business logic is conducted through the intermediate layer.